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3
BIG SPIRITS COMICS
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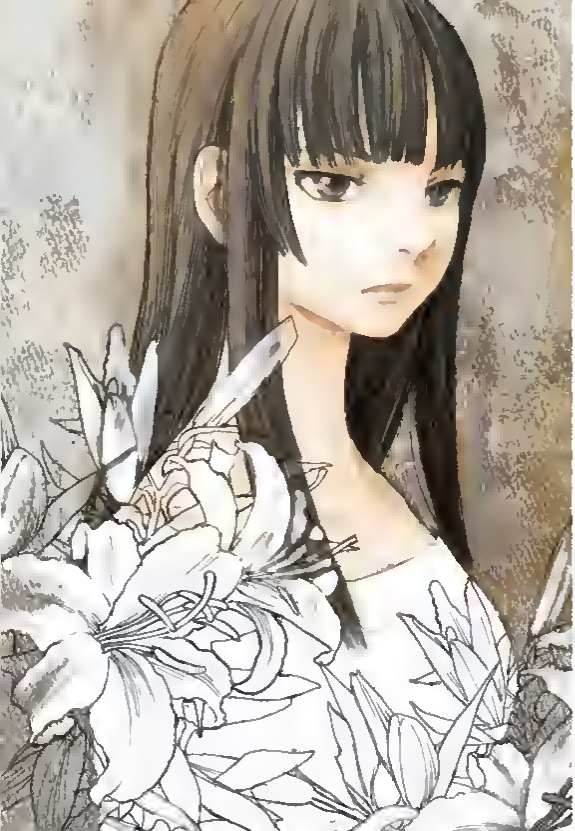

マホロバ

時空建築幻想譚

3

BIG SPIRITS COMICS SPECIAL

KEI FUYUME

冬目景

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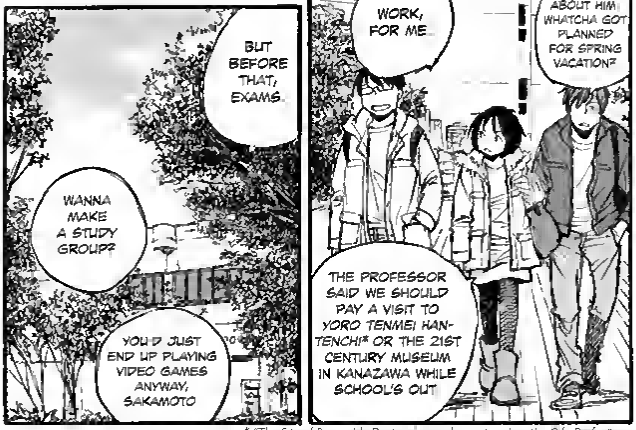
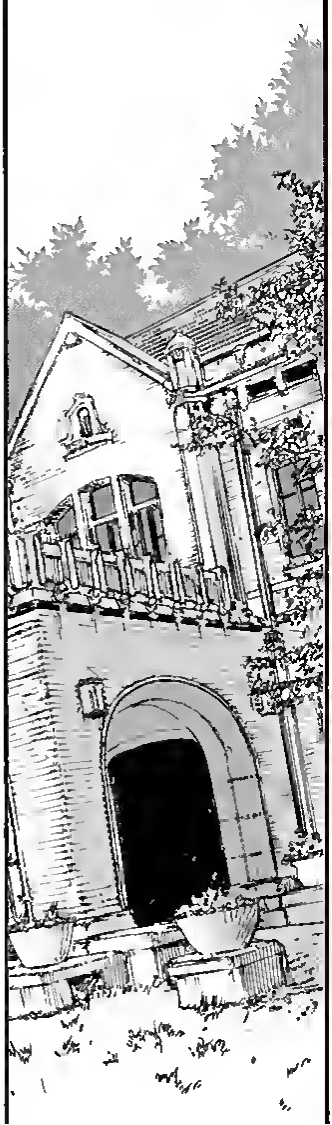
FILE 17: A Few Cherry Blossoms #1

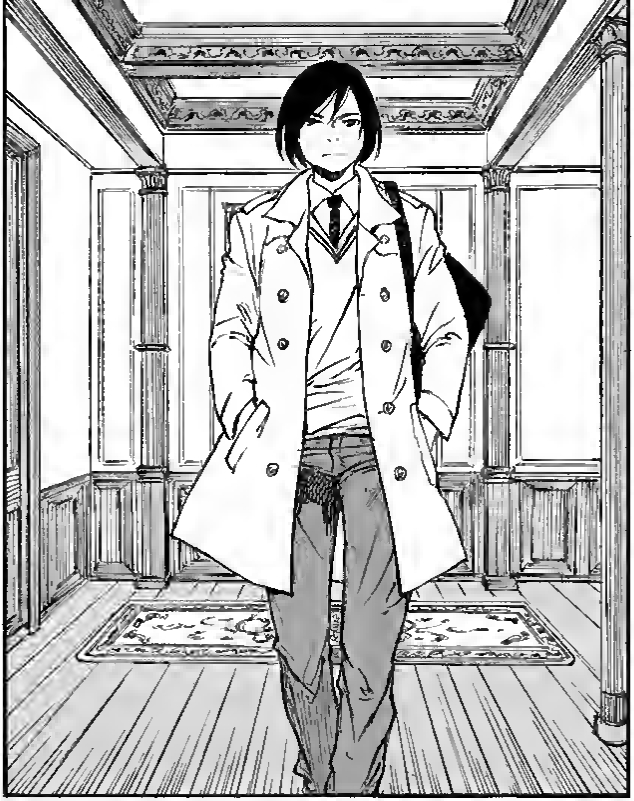
WHAT?
YOU WANT TO SURVEY CONTEMPORARY BUILDINGS?
WHAT'RE YOU HOPING TO ACCOMPLISH?
WE'RE TRYING TO PRESERVE BUILDINGS THAT ARE SLATED FOR DEMOLITION AND-
WHAT'S THAT GOT TO DO WITH ME, THEN?
WELL, WE FIGURED WE COULD USE ALL THE HELP WE CAN GET SO, YOU KNOW, IF YOU HAD SOME TIME TO SPARE
NOT INTERESTED.
THE REST OF YOU MANIACS CAN HAVE FUN BY YOURSELVES WITH YOUR OUTDATED ARCHITECTURE.
IT'S NOT OUTDATED!
YOU KEEP TELLING YOURSELF THAT.

WOW, NOBODY SAW THAT ONE COMING.
AKIRA, YOU SHOULD PUT A LITTLE MORE THOUGHT INTO WHO YOU ASK FOR HELP.
WELL... I WASN'T REALLY EXPECTING MUCH.
ahh...
I KIND OF SAW THIS COMING, TOO.
YOU SHOULDN'T JUST GO COLD OPENING AT PEOPLE WITH THIS KIND OF THING
HE'S NOT JUST NOT INTERESTED, HE ACTIVELY HATES CONTEMPORARY ARCHITECTURE.
HE'S AN ARROGANT JERK TOO.
You're coming off like some kinda door to door evangelist.
WE EVEN SAW HIM SAVING KITTENS A LITTLE WHILE AGO.
BUT HE'S NOT ALL BAD.
3
WELL, I'VE HEARD HIS FAMILY'S WEALTHY.
BUT NOBODY'S EVER SAID ANYTHING FOR SURE.
ACTUALLY, YOU WENT TO A PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL, DIDN'T YOU, AKIRA?
IF HE WAS REALLY RICH HE'D PROBABLY HAVE GONE TO A PRIVATE SCHOOL INSTEAD.
NOT ALL BAD TO YOU, MAYBE YOU WENT TO HIGH SCHOOL WITH HIM, RIGHT?
TO US HE'S NOTHING MORE THAN A SPOILED RICH KID.


ANYWAY, ENOUGH ABOUT HIM. WHATCHA GOT PLANNED FOR SPRING VACATION?
WORK, FOR ME...
BUT BEFORE THAT, EXAMS.
THE PROFESSOR SAID WE SHOULD PAY A VISIT TO YORO TENMEI HAN-TENCHI* OR THE 21ST CENTURY MUSEUM IN KANAZAWA WHILE SCHOOL'S OUT
WANNA MAKE A STUDY GROUP?
YOU'D JUST END UP PLAYING VIDEO GAMES ANYWAY, SAKAMOTO

* "The Site of Reversible Destiny" a modern art park in the Gifu Prefecture





WELCOME HOME, YOUNG MASTER.
MMM.

Good boys
HIKARI, NISHIKI, KOMACHI. YOU'VE BEEN BEHAVING, RIGHT?
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OH, VIVIAN. IS THAT WHERE YOU GOT OFF TO?
.....
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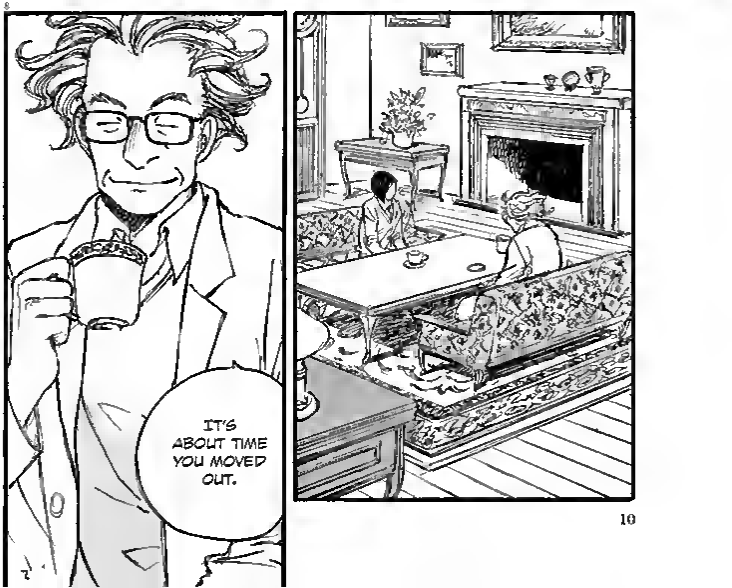
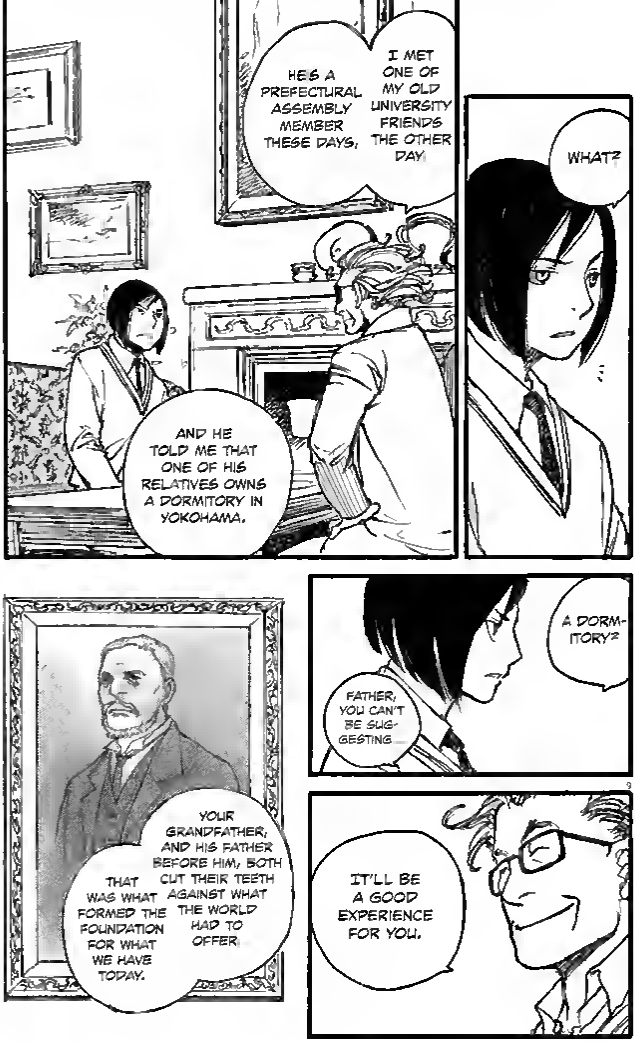
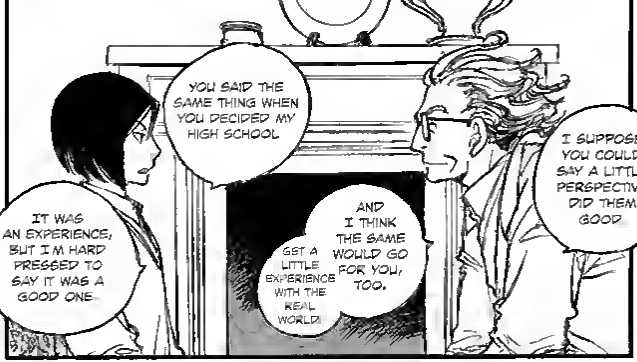
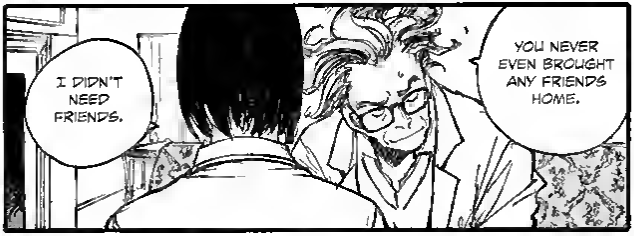
DON'T GO BRINGING FROGS INTO THE HOUSE JUST BECAUSE MY MOTHER'S AWAY.
THEY NEED TO STRETCH THEIR LEGS A LITTLE IT GETS A LITTLE CRAMPED IN THE LAB
COME TO THE LIVING ROOM, PLEASE.
AH, YOU'RE HOME. I HAD SOMETHING TO SAY TO YOU.


IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU MOVED OUT.


I MET ONE OF MY OLD UNIVERSITY FRIENDS THE OTHER DAY.
HE'S A PREFECTURAL ASSEMBLY MEMBER THESE DAYS.
AND HE TOLD ME THAT ONE OF HIS RELATIVES OWNS A DORMITORY IN YOKOHAMA.
WHAT?
A DORM-ITORY?
FATHER, YOU CAN'T BE SUG-GESTING...
YOUR GRANDFATHER, AND HIS FATHER BEFORE HIM, BOTH CUT THEIR TEETH AGAINST WHAT THE WORLD HAD TO OFFER.
THAT WAS WHAT FORMED THE FOUNDATION FOR WHAT WE HAVE TODAY.
IT'LL BE A GOOD EXPERIENCE FOR YOU.


I SUPPOSE YOU COULD SAY A LITTLE PERSPECTIVE DID THEM GOOD.
YOU SAID THE SAME THING WHEN YOU DECIDED MY HIGH SCHOOL.
AND I THINK THE SAME WOULD GO FOR YOU, TOO.
GET A LITTLE EXPERIENCE WITH THE REAL WORLD.
IT WAS AN EXPERIENCE, BUT I'M HARD PRESSED TO SAY IT WAS A GOOD ONE.

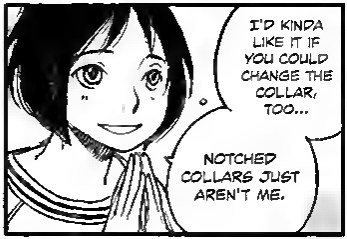

YOU NEVER EVEN BROUGHT ANY FRIENDS HOME.
I DIDN'T NEED FRIENDS.

WELL, NO MATTER. I'VE ALREADY REGISTERED YOU.
Wait what
SO I'LL EXPECT YOU OUT OF THE HOUSE BY TOMORROW AT THE LATEST.

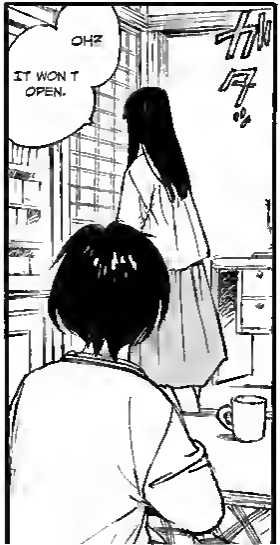
ガタタタ
HELLO.
OH, AKIRA. HELLO.
I'VE GOT THE COAT I WAS TALKING ABOUT OVER THE PHONE.
ONE OF MY COUSINS GAVE IT TO ME AS A HAND-ME-DOWN,
BUT IT'S WAY TOO BIG FOR ME.

SO YOU JUST NEED IT MADE A LITTLE SMALLER?

I DON'T THINK IT WAS WORN MUCH, BUT IT'S REALLY PRETTY.
RIGHT?
THIS IS VERY NICE CLOTH.


I'D KINDA LIKE IT IF YOU COULD CHANGE THE COLLAR, TOO...
NOTCHED COLLARS JUST AREN'T ME.

12


OH?
IT WON'T OPEN.

HMM...
HOW DO YOU WANT IT DONE?

I'LL GET OUT SOME REFERENCES YOU CAN LOOK AT.

I DID NOTICE THINGS GETTING SQUEAKY LATELY.
OH, I SEE.
OH, THE WOOD'S PROBABLY WARPED FROM AGE.
MY HOUSE IS SUPER OLD AND MADE OF WOOD TOO AND IT GETS LIKE THAT ALL THE TIME.
カラ

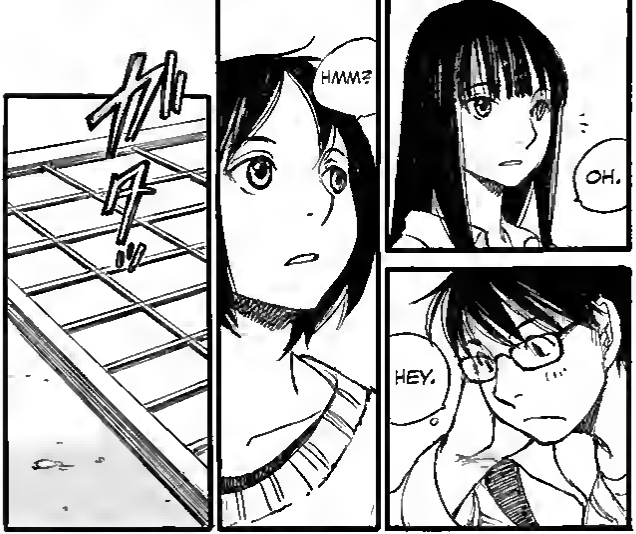
...HUH?
WAIT, I'VE SEEN THAT BEFORE.

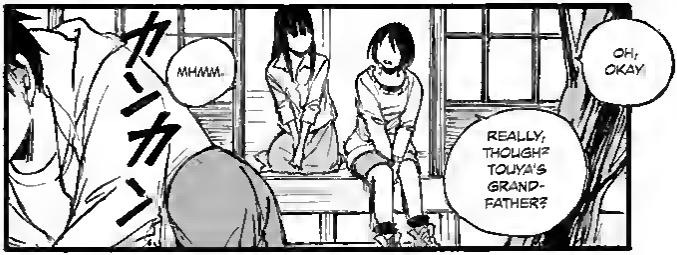
SORRY ABOUT THAT.

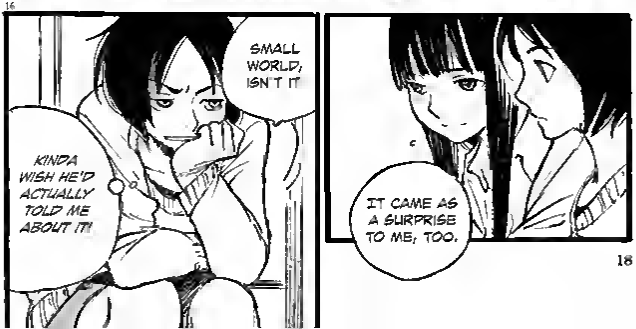
MOM HAS A TWEED COAT JUST LIKE THAT ONE.
NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT,

OH WOW, I DUNNO HOW I'LL DECIDE
THESE MAGAZINES ARE PRETTY OLD BUT THEY SHOULD GIVE YOU AN IDEA

WHAT?
YEAH, SHE'S SOMEONE I KNOW,
BUT SHE LIVES BY HERSELF SO THERE'S NOBODY TO FIX IT FOR HER
YOU WANT ME TO REPAIR A DOOR?
FINE, FINE.
YOUR HOUSE IS MADE OF WOOD TOO, RIGHT? YOU SHOULD KNOW ALL ABOUT IT.
IT'S SIMPLE YOU'LL BE DONE IN NO TIME.
Sunday.
OH, HERE?
OH, COMING!
HELLO? IT'S ME, AKIRA. I BROUGHT SOMEONE TO FIX YOUR DOOR.
YEAH, YOU'VE BEEN HERE BEFORE, THIS IS MAYURI'S HOUSE, RIGHT?


HMM?
OH.
HEY.


MHMM.
OH, OKAY.
REALLY, THOUGH? TOUYA'S GRANDFATHER?


SMALL WORLD, ISN'T IT
KINDA WISH HE'D ACTUALLY TOLD ME ABOUT IT!
IT CAME AS A SURPRISE TO ME, TOO.

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THANK YOU.
OKAY, THAT'S ABOUT IT. I WAXED THE BOTTOM AND TOP TOO, SO IT SHOULD BE FINE
カン カン
YOU MUST HAVE WORKED UP A THIRST. I'LL MAKE SOME TEA.
17
SO YEAH. MY GRANDFATHER HELPED BUILD THAT HOUSE,
AND WHEN SHE GOT TO KNOW HIM HE DID HER FAVORS BY MAKING REPAIRS ON THE HOUSE EVERY SO OFTEN WHEN IT NEEDED IT.
HMM...
OH, NO, IT'S FINE. YOU DON'T HAVE TO
YOU HAVE TO GET GOING TO WORK, RIGHT, TOLIYA?
OH, UHH YEAH,

SOUNDS LIKE SOMETHING YOU'D SEE IN A MOVIE.
THE SAME TWO FAMILIES MEETING EACH OTHER TWO GENERATIONS APART.
AND HE NEVER TOLD YOU ABOUT ANY OF THIS, HUH.
THERE'S A LOT OF STUFF I'M FINDING OUT FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE MOVING HERE.
I DON'T THINK IT'S THAT RARE, CONSIDERING WE LIVE IN THE SAME AREA.
YOU THINK?
I GUESS YOU'VE GOT A POINT...
I MEAN, I USED TO LIVE IN CHIBA AND I MET YOU LIVING HERE IN KANAGAWA AFTER HOW MANY YEARS?

OURIN DORMITORY, HMM.
FOR YOKOHAMA'S COLLEGE STUDENT POPULATION
WELL. I SUPPOSE IT'LL BE BETTER THAN LIVING IN THAT DERELICT OF A MANSION
AND I WAS ALWAYS PLANNING ON LEAVING THE HOUSE SOMEDAY.
FOR ALL HIS TALK OF GETTING DOWN TO EARTH AND MINGLING WITH THE COMMON PEOPLE,
STILL...
IT'S NOT LIKE FATHER EVER LEAVES HIS UNIVERSITY LAB AND HIS FROGS.
HMPH, WHAT A HYPO-CRITE.

...IT'S DESERTED?